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SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.

Technical information: (404) 893-4222 BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov [www.bls.gov/regions/southeast](http://www.bls.gov/regions/southeast)

Media contact: (404) 893-4220

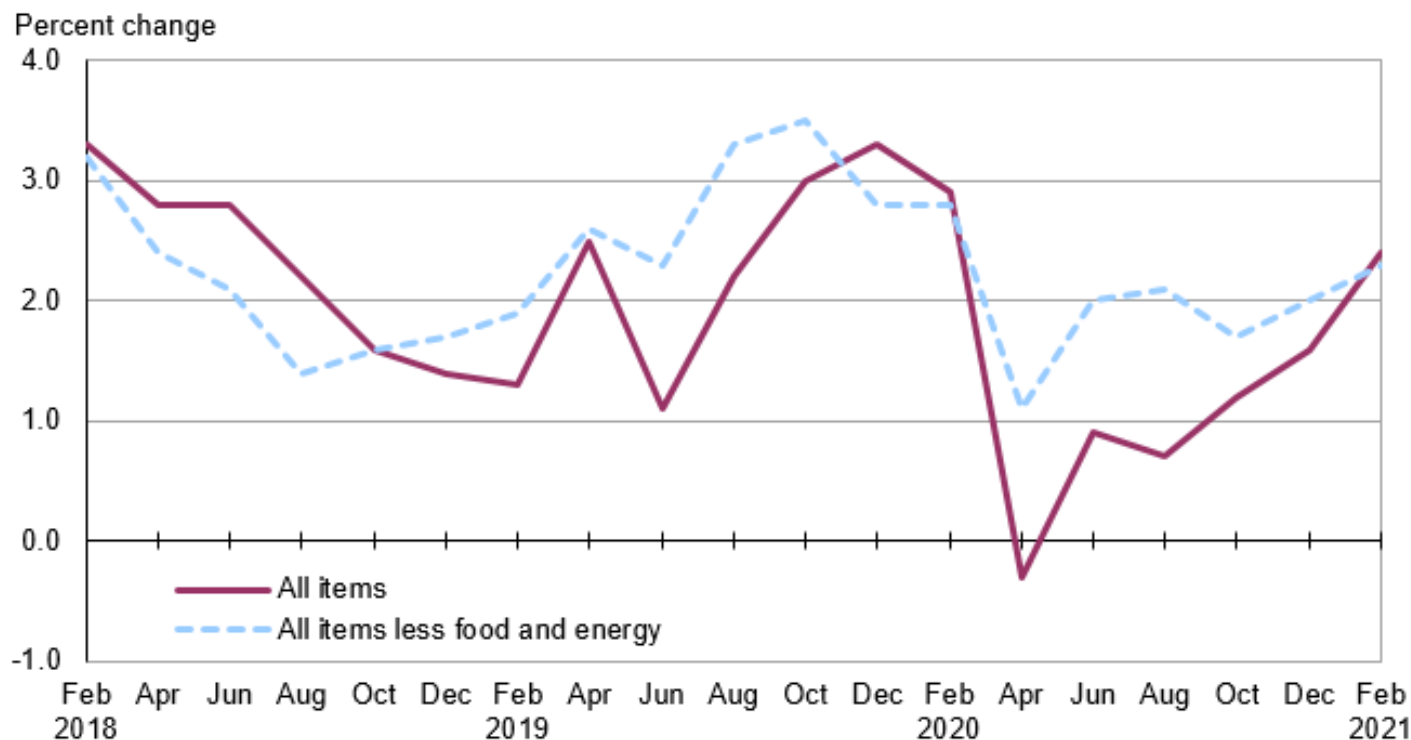
## Consumer Price Index, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell – February 2021

### Area prices up 2.4 percent over the year

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell increased 1.6 percent from December to February, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that the index for all items less food and energy rose 1.5 percent since December, while the energy index advanced 8.1 percent. In contrast, the food index declined 1.4 percent over the bi-monthly period. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, bi-monthly changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

The all items CPI-U increased 2.4 percent for the 12 months ending in February. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.3 percent over the year. The energy index rose 4.1 percent over the past 12 months, while the food index rose 2.3 percent. (See [chart 1](#) and [table 1](#).)

**Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA, February 2018–February 2021**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Food

The food index fell 1.4 percent from December to February, reflecting declines in the food away from home (-1.9 percent) and food at home (-0.9 percent) indexes.

The food index rose 2.3 percent for the 12 months ending in February, led by a 4.4-percent increase in the food at home index. The food away from home index also increased over the year, up 0.2 percent.

## Energy

The energy index advanced 8.1 percent from December to February, led by a 16.8-percent jump in the gasoline index. The electricity index also increased over the bi-monthly period, up 1.4 percent.

The energy index rose 4.1 percent for the 12 months ending in February, reflecting increases in the gasoline (4.5 percent) and electricity (1.8 percent) indexes.

## All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy increased 1.5 percent from December to February. Among the indexes to increase over the bi-monthly period include shelter (0.9 percent), apparel (9.0 percent), and recreation (5.8 percent).

The index for all items less food and energy advanced 2.3 percent for the 12 months ending in February. Several indexes contributed to the increase, most notably shelter (2.1 percent). The new and used motor vehicles index advanced 5.5 percent over the past 12 months, reflecting increases in the used cars and trucks (8.1 percent) and new vehicles (4.4 percent) indexes.

**Table A. Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA, CPI-U 2-month and 12-month percent changes, all items index, not seasonally adjusted**

| Month          | 2017    |          | 2018    |          | 2019    |          | 2020    |          | 2021    |          |
|----------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|                | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month | 2-month | 12-month |
| February ..... | 1.2     | 3.5      | 1.2     | 3.3      | 1.2     | 1.3      | 0.8     | 2.9      | 1.6     | 2.4      |
| April .....    | 0.6     | 3.2      | 0.2     | 2.8      | 1.4     | 2.5      | -1.8    | -0.3     |         |          |
| June .....     | 1.3     | 3.2      | 1.2     | 2.8      | -0.1    | 1.1      | 1.1     | 0.9      |         |          |
| August .....   | 0.8     | 3.5      | 0.3     | 2.2      | 1.3     | 2.2      | 1.2     | 0.7      |         |          |
| October .....  | -0.3    | 3.2      | -1.0    | 1.6      | -0.2    | 3.0      | 0.3     | 1.2      |         |          |
| December ..... | -0.4    | 3.2      | -0.6    | 1.4      | -0.3    | 3.3      | 0.1     | 1.6      |         |          |

**The Consumer Price Index for March 2021 is scheduled to be released on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 8:30 a.m. (ET).**

## Coronavirus (COVID-19) Impact on February 2021 Consumer Price Index Data

Data collection by personal visit for the Consumer Price Index (CPI) program has been suspended since March 16, 2020. When possible, data normally collected by personal visit were collected either online or by phone. Additionally, data collection in February was affected by the temporary closing or limited operations of certain types of establishments. These factors resulted in an increase in the number of prices considered temporarily unavailable and imputed. While the CPI program attempted to collect as much data as possible, many indexes are based on smaller amounts of collected prices than usual, and a small number of indexes that are normally published were not published this month. Additional information is available at [www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm](http://www.bls.gov/covid19/effects-of-covid-19-pandemic-on-consumer-price-index.htm).

### Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 93 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 29 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 75 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 22,000 retail establishments—department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date; for most of the CPI-U the reference base is 1982-84 equals 100. An increase of 7 percent from the reference base, for example, is shown as 107.000. Alternatively, that relationship can also be expressed as the price of a base period market basket of goods and services rising from \$100 to \$107. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at [www.bls.gov/cpi](http://www.bls.gov/cpi) and the CPI section of the BLS Handbook of Methods available on the internet at [www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/](http://www.bls.gov/opub/hom/cpi/).

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE: Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The **Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA**, Core Based Statistical Area covered in this release is comprised of Barrow, Bartow, Butts, Carroll, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fayette, Forsyth, Fulton, Gwinnett, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jasper, Lamar, Meriwether, Morgan, Newton, Paulding, Pickens, Pike, Rockdale, Spalding, and Walton Counties in Georgia.

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**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)**

| Item and Group   | Indexes      |              |              | Percent change from- |              |              |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
|  | Dec.<br>2020 | Jan.<br>2021 | Feb.<br>2021 | Feb.<br>2020         | Dec.<br>2020 | Jan.<br>2021 |
| <b>Expenditure category</b>                            |              |              |              |                      |              |              |
| All Items.....   | 249.051      | -            | 252.972      | 2.4                  | 1.6          | -            |
| All items (1967=100) .....                             | 751.062      | -            | 762.886      | -                    | -            | -            |
| Food and beverages .....                               | 270.496      | -            | 266.880      | 1.6                  | -1.3         | -            |
| Food .....   | 283.634      | -            | 279.677      | 2.3                  | -1.4         | -            |
| Food at home .....                                     | 261.812      | 258.251      | 259.451      | 4.4                  | -0.9         | 0.5          |
| Cereals and bakery products .....                      | 224.850      | -            | 224.593      | 2.6                  | -0.1         | -            |
| Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs.....                    | 298.853      | -            | 288.545      | 3.6                  | -3.4         | -            |
| Dairy and related products .....                       | 245.648      | -            | 248.858      | 3.3                  | 1.3          | -            |
| Fruits and vegetables .....                            | 310.763      | -            | 304.271      | 5.2                  | -2.1         | -            |
| Nonalcoholic beverages and beverage materials(1) ..... | 263.054      | -            | 265.546      | 4.1                  | 0.9          | -            |
| Other food at home .....                               | 223.710      | -            | 224.443      | 6.2                  | 0.3          | -            |
| Food away from home.....                               | 318.941      | -            | 312.861      | 0.2                  | -1.9         | -            |
| Alcoholic beverages .....                              | 154.624      | -            | 153.885      | -7.6                 | -0.5         | -            |
| Housing .....  | 262.417      | -            | 264.770      | 2.6                  | 0.9          | -            |
| Shelter .....  | 291.443      | 292.620      | 294.193      | 2.1                  | 0.9          | 0.5          |
| Rent of primary residence .....                        | 307.515      | 308.985      | 310.509      | 4.3                  | 1.0          | 0.5          |
| Owners' equiv. rent of residences(2) .....             | 286.507      | 287.790      | 288.956      | 2.9                  | 0.9          | 0.4          |
| Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence(2) .....      | 286.507      | 287.790      | 288.956      | 2.9                  | 0.9          | 0.4          |
| Fuels and utilities.....                               | 306.390      | -            | 310.272      | 3.5                  | 1.3          | -            |
| Household energy .....                                 | 263.571      | 265.854      | 266.585      | 3.8                  | 1.1          | 0.3          |
| Energy Services .....                                  | 262.164      | 264.450      | 265.069      | 3.8                  | 1.1          | 0.2          |
| Electricity .....                                      | 220.667      | 223.852      | 223.852      | 1.8                  | 1.4          | 0.0          |
| Utility (piped) gas service .....                      | -            | -            | -            | -                    | -            | -            |
| Household furnishings and operations .....             | 130.850      | -            | 131.090      | 4.6                  | 0.2          | -            |
| Apparel .....  | 132.337      | -            | 144.205      | 2.6                  | 9.0          | -            |
| Transportation .....                                   | 199.919      | -            | 207.920      | 2.2                  | 4.0          | -            |
| Private transportation .....                           | 202.792      | -            | 211.048      | 4.2                  | 4.1          | -            |
| New and used motor vehicles(3) .....                   | 107.057      | -            | 106.392      | 5.5                  | -0.6         | -            |
| New vehicles(1).....                                   | 217.370      | -            | 219.851      | 4.4                  | 1.1          | -            |
| Used cars and trucks(1) .....                          | 227.807      | -            | 225.694      | 8.1                  | -0.9         | -            |
| Motor fuel .....                                       | 179.504      | 195.479      | 209.429      | 4.4                  | 16.7         | 7.1          |
| Gasoline (all types).....                              | 178.194      | 194.151      | 208.046      | 4.5                  | 16.8         | 7.2          |
| Unleaded regular(4) .....                              | 173.353      | 189.277      | 203.580      | 4.9                  | 17.4         | 7.6          |
| Unleaded midgrade(4)(5) .....                          | 229.793      | 249.073      | 259.786      | 2.4                  | 13.1         | 4.3          |
| Unleaded premium(4).....                               | 203.165      | 217.620      | 227.150      | 2.2                  | 11.8         | 4.4          |
| Motor vehicle insurance(1).....                        | 1,184.960    | -            | 1,249.058    | 1.0                  | 5.4          | -            |
| Medical Care .....                                     | 484.903      | -            | 489.980      | 1.4                  | 1.0          | -            |
| Recreation(3).....                                     | 83.801       | -            | 88.684       | 5.1                  | 5.8          | -            |
| Education and communication(3).....                    | 140.069      | -            | 140.869      | 2.4                  | 0.6          | -            |
| Tuition, other school fees, and child care(1) ..       | 1,511.228    | -            | 1,509.959    | 3.3                  | -0.1         | -            |
| Other goods and services .....                         | 404.753      | -            | 413.090      | 3.5                  | 2.1          | -            |
| <b>Commodity and service group</b>                     |              |              |              |                      |              |              |
| All Items.....   | 249.051      | -            | 252.972      | 2.4                  | 1.6          | -            |
| Commodities .....                                      | 180.027      | -            | 183.235      | 2.5                  | 1.8          | -            |
| Commodities less food & beverages.....                 | 141.260      | -            | 146.596      | 3.1                  | 3.8          | -            |
| Nondurables less food & beverages .....                | 172.803      | -            | 184.936      | 1.7                  | 7.0          | -            |
| Durables .....   | 108.896      | -            | 109.234      | 4.8                  | 0.3          | -            |
| Services.....  | 314.227      | -            | 318.785      | 2.3                  | 1.5          | -            |

Note: See footnotes at end of table.

**Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Roswell, GA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued**

| Item and Group                            | Indexes      |              |              | Percent change from- |              |              |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
|   | Dec.<br>2020 | Jan.<br>2021 | Feb.<br>2021 | Feb.<br>2020         | Dec.<br>2020 | Jan.<br>2021 |
| <b>Special aggregate indexes</b>          |              |              |              |                      |              |              |
| All items less medical care .....         | 236.649      | -            | 240.492      | 2.5                  | 1.6          | -            |
| All items less shelter .....              | 235.419      | -            | 239.863      | 2.5                  | 1.9          | -            |
| Commodities less food .....               | 141.357      | -            | 146.463      | 2.7                  | 3.6          | -            |
| Nondurables .....                         | 215.507      | -            | 220.672      | 1.7                  | 2.4          | -            |
| Nondurables less food .....               | 170.334      | -            | 181.366      | 1.0                  | 6.5          | -            |
| Services less rent of shelter(2) .....    | 354.328      | -            | 361.402      | 2.5                  | 2.0          | -            |
| Services less medical care services ..... | 296.201      | -            | 300.452      | 2.1                  | 1.4          | -            |
| Energy .....                              | 199.586      | 208.538      | 215.830      | 4.1                  | 8.1          | 3.5          |
| All items less energy .....               | 253.977      | -            | 256.652      | 2.3                  | 1.1          | -            |
| All items less food and energy .....      | 249.772      | -            | 253.460      | 2.3                  | 1.5          | -            |

**Footnotes**

(1) Index is on a December 1977=100 base.

(2) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(3) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

(4) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(5) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

- Data not available.

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date. Data not seasonally adjusted.